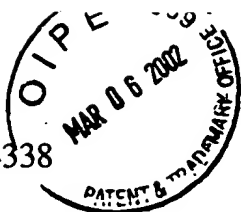


0941.64338



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re U.S. Patent Application)

Applicant: Okamoto et al.)

Serial No.: 09/588,923)

Filed: June 6, 2000)

For: MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIUM)
AND MAGNETIC STORAGE)
APPARATUS)

Art Unit: 1773)

Examiner: Rickman, H.)

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with
the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an
envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for
Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this date.

2/11/2002
Date

F. CLASS. WCM

James K. Follen
Registration No. 37,538
Attorney for Applicant

COPY OF PAPERS
ORIGINALLY FILED

RECEIVED
MAR 13 2002
TC 1700

AMENDMENT A

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 11, 2001, please amend the
above-identified Application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 3, 4, 8, and 9 to read as follows:

3. (Once Amended) The magnetic recording medium as claimed in

claim 1, wherein said ferromagnetic layer is made of a material selected from a group